Recommendations of the expert committee on excellence in postal services

713. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) what are the important recommendations of the Expert Committee on Excellence in Postal Services in each of the areas of: (1) Organisational structure, (2) Service Quality, (3) Finances, and (4) Level of technology and when they were received, and laid on the Table of the House;

(b) the details of recommendations in each are which have been rejected and which ones have been accepted, implemented or are under implementation and with what results; and

(c) the time, by when the recommendations in the first two areas i e 'Organisational Structure' and 'Service Quality' are likely to be implemted so that people may note a perceptible improvement in the present poor state of services?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH). (a) A list of recommendations of the Expert Committee on Excellence in Postal Services in each of the areas of (1) Organisational Structure, (2) Service Quality; (3) Finances, and (4) Level of technology is enclosed (*See* Appendix CLVI, Annexure No 13) The Expert Committee on Excellence in Postal Services submitted its Interim Report on 31st December, 1988 and the Final Report on 30th September, 1989 The Reports were not laid on the Table of the House

(b) 36 recommendations were made by the Expert Committee on Excellence in Postal Services on the subjects referred to in (a) above. The stages of implementation in respect of 16 recommendations are indicated in the Statement enclosed (*See* Appendix CLVI, Annexure No 14) The other recommendations are at various stages of evaluation

(c) (i) The Postal Services are operating at a reasonable level of efficiency notwithstanding many constraints, some of which are beyond the control of the Department.

(ii) No definite time-frame has been fixed for implementation of recommendations in these two areas (Organisational Structure and Service Quality).

Tax incentive for the growth of cattle for dairy farming for environmental protection in the country

714. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state·

(a) what are the reasons for which Government have not re-introduced the tax incentive to dairy farming and cattle protection, considered to be essential for environmental protection while 33-1/3 per cent tax deduction from gross income has been re-introduced in Section 80JJ of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for poultry farming; and

(b) what are the details of future plants for grant of tax and other incentives for the growth of cattle or for dairy farming in the interest of environmental protection in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI)· (a) and (b) The information is being collected and would be place on the Table of the House

Grant of Licence to Alkabeer Ltd. to set up a slaughter House in A.P.

715. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state·

what are the reasons for the grant of licence to Alkabeer Ltd. to destroy the national wealth of cattle, for setting up a modern slaughter house in Medak District of Andhra Pradesh, when it was refused licence in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): Ministry of Industries have issued a letter of intent to M/s. Alkabeer Ltd., Rudraram village, Tehsil Pacaneheru Mandal, Distt Medak (Andhra Pradesh) for processing buffalo meat for the purpose of export According to this letter, the firm is authorised to slaughter only the old and useless buffaloes.

Programmes to meet the problem presented by ozone hole glasshouse effect and acid rains

716 SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

Whether it is a fact that India is not fully geared yet to meet the colossal problem presented by Ozone Hole, glasshouse effect and Acid Rains and if so, what time bound programmes have been drawn up to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): Though there is scientific evidence to the effect that depletion of the Ozone layer leads to skin cancer, eye diseases and immune deficiencies in human beings and animals besides other adverse effects on human and plant life, there is no scientific observation of either a significant depletion of the ozone layer or the existence of a ozone hole over India

The Government have set up an Expert Advisory Committee to analyse the impact of the greenhouse effect and its implications for India

There are no confirmed reports of any incidence of acid rain in India The free dust in the atmosphere has a buffering action which neutralizes the acidity of precipitation over India The efforts made by the Government and the Industries to control air pollution from industries also keeps in check the possibility of industrial pollutants producing acid rain in the country

Environment pollution in Delhi

717. SHRI B K HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the most revealing newsreport by Neelam Mathews in Network of October, 1990 concerning Delhi which has emerged as the fourth most polluted city in the World as per a WHO study;

(b) whether as a first step Government would eliminate tetralead from petrol as is being done in the West by addition of 10-20 per cent alcohol and as was being done in India during World War II; and

(c) whether a Task Force of concerned *health NGOs and citizens would be set up* in Delhi to serve as a watch-dog on environment pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Ministry of Petroleum has been asked to bring down the lead content in petrol to 0 15 gm/litre by April, 1993

(c) There is no proposal to have such a task force to serve as a watch-dog on environmental pollution However, an Environmental Protection Council has been set up by the Delhi Administration primarily to review the work relating to environmental protection and to advise on environmental issues This Council has representatives of NGOs on it

National Park in the Country

718 SHRI B. K HARIPRASAD Will the Minister of ENVRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that some more national parks in the country have been put on IUCNs threatened list and if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps proposed in this regard (Times of India dated the 30th November, 1990); and

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of the medicinal plants have be-